

Dr. Meier's reason for coming to work each day is captured in his positive attitude. He heaps praise on the other doctors, nurses and support staff who combine to make the center a wonderful place to practice medicine.

Madam Speaker, the San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor Dr. Meier's contributions in a special ceremony on April 30th. He is without question a hero of healthcare in the county and State.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, on March 16th, I missed rollcall vote 118 on passage of H. Res. 605. If I were present, I would have voted "aye" in support of recognizing the continued campaign to persecute, intimidate, imprison, and torture Falun Gong practitioners in China. I strongly supported this legislation.

The Chinese Government has conducted an official program of persecution and suppression of practitioners of Falun Gong for ten years. I join my colleagues in Congress in expressing sympathy to practitioners of Falun Gong in China, the United States and around the world, and in calling on the Chinese Government to end their campaign of discrimination, intimidation and imprisonment of Falun Gong practitioners.

FOND DU LAC HIGH SCHOOL SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, few events resonate more within a community than marking a major anniversary of its only public high school. This year, in my home town of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, we are celebrating 150 years of continuing commitment to academic excellence that has been achieved by Fond du Lac High School.

As described by G.K. Chesterton, one of the most influential English writers of the 20th century, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." I believe the generations of those who have lived in Fond du Lac since the high school first opened its doors in January of 1859 have been very well served.

Fond du Lac is similar to many cities of its size throughout this great nation. Its citizens are hardworking and civic-minded; they are family-oriented and committed to their children; and they understand the value of a high-quality education. It is for these reasons the high school is such a source of community pride and so tightly woven into the fabric of the community.

It was this commitment to education that initially drove concerned parents to petition for the creation of a high school in October of 1858 in order to develop their children's base

of knowledge beyond the fundamentals. In what has become recognized as a typical American trait of every generation, they wanted their children to achieve more than they had and they knew education was the key. They also knew there needed to be a facility where the work of education could be completed.

The first permanent high school in Fond du Lac was built in 1865 at a cost of \$17,000. That building burned to the ground in 1868 but, undaunted, the community responded by building a four-story, brick and stone facility, which was completed in 1871 at a cost of \$45,000. As the city grew, its citizens responded by building larger schools, expanding them, and when necessary replacing them, in a cycle that has been repeated many times over. How far we have come from the first high school classes held in the Sewell Store on Main Street to the expansive, multimillion-dollar, high-tech school we have today.

But a high school is more than just bricks and mortar; more important are the people who have worked there and have been a part of its development. As Fond du Lac celebrates this important milestone, it is appropriate to remember individuals like George B. Eastman, the first Superintendent of the Fond du Lac Union High School District; Edwin Johnson and M.S. Merrill, Fond du Lac High School's first teachers; and Julia Gibbons and John P. McGalloway, who were among those who served on the first elected school board in the 1920s. Those who belong to more recent generations will tell you not to forget Lowell P. Goodrich, who served as Superintendent from 1923 through 1940 and after whom the high school would be named for many years.

Through the generations, Fond du Lac High School has graduated students who have gone on to contribute to their communities and professions in a wide array of occupations and pursuits, demonstrating that education is indeed "the soul of a society."

As we reflect on the profound impact of education, please join me in congratulating the people of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin as they celebrate the sesquicentennial of their high school this year.

HONORING CITYLINK ON 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10th anniversary of the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District, also known as Citylink.

The Greater Peoria Mass Transit District was first formed on May 4, 1970 to provide public transportation to the Village of Peoria Heights, West Peoria Township and the City of Peoria.

In its first year of operation over 667,000 passengers rode the Citylink system. Since that time the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District has expanded its area of operations to include East Peoria, Pekin and Bartonville. With this expanded area of service the transit dis-

trict was able to provide over 3,000,000 bus rides to passengers this past year.

During its 40 years of service to the Greater Peoria area, innovation has been key to the success of the transit district. Citylink was the first transit system in the country to take advantage of local commodities by implementing ethanol-fueled buses into its fleet. A relationship with the Peoria Historical Society was also established in order to bring trolley-buses into the district's fleet. These trolleys were obtained in order to provide for historical tours of the area with the guide of local Peoria Historical Society Members.

Catering to the needs of its passengers has been another key to the success of the transit district. Citylink has extended early morning and late night routes in order to help those passengers with work shifts starting early or ending late in the night. Along with these hours of extended service, special fares were established to help seniors, students and passengers who may be physically or mentally challenged. In fact, over 118,000 trips were given to paratransit riders during this past year alone.

I wish to congratulate and thank the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District and all the staff members who have provided stellar service to the entire Peoria area over the past 40 years. It is my honor this day to congratulate them, 40 years after their inception.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARK HIGHMAN OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Mark Highman, a cardiologist who willingly chose the career path of public service medicine over the more lucrative road of private practice. I feel very fortunate to have known Dr. Highman for 30 years. Clearly, decades of patients at the center who lacked insurance or the money to pay for it appreciate his decision to practice at the San Mateo Medical Center.

He was appointed Medical Director of the Special Care Unit, Vice Chief of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology to the center in 1977. Dr. Highman also is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at Stanford University.

The diversity of patients and their medical challenges prompted Dr. Highman to become certified in critical care. He considers treating the less fortunate to be, in his own words, "richly rewarding" and that speaks volumes to what this healer is all about. As a career-long medical musketeer he is the embodiment of the esprit de corps at the center.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Mark Highman is a hero of healthcare to a generation of the less fortunate in our county and State. The San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor his contributions at a special ceremony on April 30th.